

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the Office Action mailed January 20, 2010 in the above-identified application. Based on the foregoing amendments and the following comments, allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, independent claims 1, 8 and 21 have been amended. The amendments find clear support in the original application at least in Figs. 4A, 4B and 5; page 5, lines 3-20; and page 10, lines 1-12. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Boys et al. (US 5,875,448) in view of Yokota et al. (EP 0 597 483). The rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Boys is directed to an audio editor in a handheld device that allows a user to edit the audio in its audio form (Abstract and col. 3, lines 8-36). Boys describes a playback mechanism wherein a user can rewind and fast forward the audio using a thumbwheel that, when activated by the user, indicates how far and how fast to rewind or fast forward. The playback mechanism of Boys is very different from the reverse playback operation recited in Applicant's claims and does not utilize word-marking data. Boys states that "a machine has a real problem determining where one word ends and another begins" (col. 2, lines 45-47), thus teaching away from generating word-marking data as claimed.

The Examiner concedes that Boys does not teach "initiating a backward jump, counter to the forward sequence over a distance corresponding to a length of at least N words using the word boundaries indicated in the word-marking data, to a target position, and then, starting from the target position, the control means initiates a replay of K words of the audio data in the forward sequence using the word boundaries indicated in the word-marking data, wherein K is less than N, the control means further controlling the audio replaying means to automatically repeat performing the reverse mode playback operation while the system is in the reverse mode" (Office Action, page 5). However, the Examiner contends that Yokota teaches the limitations that are lacking in Boys. Applicant must respectfully disagree.

Yokota is directed to a disc playback method for fast playback of a disc in cue and review modes (col. 1, lines 7-9). In a hybrid playback combination of a fast playback operation in cue and review modes, Yokota describes rewinding a first designated number of data blocks and then playing forward a second designated number of data blocks (col. 11, lines 8-24). However, as with Boys, the system of Yokota does not determine the location of word boundaries between spoken words within the audio data. During disc playback, the distance of the rewind and playback is based on blocks of data or programs, not word boundaries, as word boundaries are not determined in the system of Yokota.

Furthermore, neither Boys nor Yokota teaches or suggests voice recognition means for performing voice recognition on the audio data and generating text data and word-marking data, *the word-marking data indicating locations of word boundaries between spoken words within the audio data and linking words in the audio data to corresponding words in the text data*, as required by amended claim 1. Instead, Boys describes a system allowing a user to edit voice-recorded information before transcription (col. 1, lines 9-11). Yokota does not provide the teachings that are lacking in Boys. Yokota describes a method for playback of a disc to reproduce audio data (col. 1, lines 45-48) but does not describe conversion of audio data to text data.

Furthermore, the combination of Boys and Yokota does not disclose or suggest *the control means controlling the displaying on the display means of the stored text data that corresponds to the audio data being replayed, as indicated by the word-marking data*, as required by amended claim 1. As discussed above, Boys relates to editing of audio data before transcription and Yokota relates to playback of audio data from a disc with no mention of text data.

For at least these reasons, amended claim 1 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Boys in view of Yokota, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are allowable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Regarding amended claim 8, the combination of Boys and Yokota does not disclose or suggest performing voice recognition... on the audio data and generating text data and word-marking data, *the word-marking data indicating locations of word boundaries between spoken*

words within the audio data and linking words in the audio data to corresponding words in the text data, as claimed. Nor does the combination of Boys and Yokota disclose or suggest replaying the audio data in a reverse playback operation and *displaying the stored text data that corresponds to the audio data being replayed, as indicated by the word-marking data*, as required by amended claim 8. For at least these reasons and the reasons discussed above, amended claim 8 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Boys in view of Yokota, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-20 depend from claim 8 and are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 8.

Regarding amended claim 21, the combination of Boys and Yokota does not disclose or suggest a voice recognition system configured to perform voice recognition on the audio data and to generate text data and word-marking data, *the word-marking data indicating locations of word boundaries between spoken words within the audio data and linking words in the audio data to corresponding words in the text data*, as claimed. Nor does the combination of Boys and Yokota disclose or suggest a controller configured to replay the stored audio data in a reverse mode and to *display on the display device the text data that corresponds to the audio data being replayed, as indicated by the word-marking data*, as required by amended claim 21. For at least these reasons and the reasons discussed above, amended claim 21 is clearly and patentably distinguished over Boys in view of Yokota, and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 22-27 depend from claim 21 and are patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons as claim 21.

Based upon the above discussion, claims 1-27 are in condition for allowance.

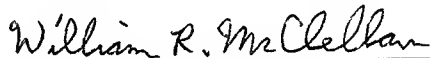
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, Applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 23/2825, under Docket No. N0484.70057US00 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: April 20, 2010

Respectfully submitted,



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